



Tuesday, 9 November 2021

Regional coaches build knowledge as CWI hosts face-to-face components of High-Performance Coach Programme

ST JOHN'S, Antigua – The next stage of Cricket West Indies' (CWI) High Performance Coach Programme has been successfully delivered as part of CWI's development and investment strategy to upgrade and upskill coaches across the region. A number of enthusiastic coaches from across the region participated in the week-long event at the end of October at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua, which was delivered on the back of five online modules leading into the event.

The latest stage involved face-to-face practical components to build coaches' knowledge. In addition to the technical basics of elite cricket, topics included Leadership, Programme Management, Communication, Skill Acquisition as well as Visual Technology and Data Analysis. One of the highlights was a bowling masterclass with iconic fast bowler Courtney Walsh, who is the Head Coach of the West Indies Women's Team.

Shivnarine Chanderpaul, the legendary West Indies batsman, was among the participants and he was very positive about the programme. "It is a lot of information being passed on. There are so many different and informative things, which we have gone through on this High-Performance Level 3 coaching course, and I am very happy to be participating. It is very beneficial for all of us, this is where coaching is going, and it is very necessary that we are aware and equipped to be able to share the knowledge to our players," he said.

Several other former international players participated including Nikita Miller, Garey Mathurin, Vishal Singh, Ryan Austin, and Rayad Emrit.

This is the first-ever locally planned and delivered High-Performance Coach Programme (Level 3) CWI which forms a key part of the “Cricket First” strategic plan, which includes investment in building coaching depth and quality across the region, especially considering the vital role coaches play in developing cricketers’ skills across all age groups and abilities both on and off the field.

The High-Performance (Level 3) programme has been designed by CWI Coach Development Manager, Chris Brabazon, in partnership with the University of the West Indies (UWI). It provides several of the region’s best coaches with opportunities to further learn and develop contemporary coaching philosophies and techniques that will allow them to thrive in the high-performance environment of the West Indies Cricket Pathway.

The rigorous, holistic accreditation also consists of online discussions, tutorials, and ongoing mentoring. The course was delivered by CWI’s High-Performance staff, in conjunction with UWI representatives, to provide participants with unprecedented access to best practice case studies and frameworks from the elite levels of West Indies cricket and beyond.

-ENDS-



Tuesday, 9 November 2021

CWI and Republic Bank launch new '5 For Fun' children's cricket format

Trialed successfully in St Lucia as part of CWI Future Stars participation programme

ST JOHN'S, Antigua – Cricket West Indies (CWI) and the Republic Bank Group have successfully completed the first trial edition of “5 for Fun” – a new and exciting cricket format designed to grow interest and participation in cricket

for primary school aged children. Republic Bank and CWI partnered to create and trial this unique 5-over, 5-player format of the game that sees CWI leveraging their extensive coaching and school's development infrastructure and Republic Bank's group-wide "Power to Make a Difference" programme.

"5 for Fun" is designed around the principles of fun, inclusion, and equality. The 'fun' elements of the game are rooted in its speed, energy, and uncomplicated rules. Each 5 For Fun game involves five (5) players per team playing five (5) 6-ball overs each. Each batter faces an over from a single bowler. If a batter is 'Out', they will still face their allotted over, but 3 runs will be deducted from the team score. The 'inclusion and equality' elements ensure boys and girls of all abilities have the opportunity to play together as equals.

The "5 for Fun" pilot scheme started with zonal games held earlier this year in St Lucia. The finals took place recently at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground, with the support of the St Lucia National Cricket Association (SLNCA) and the St Lucia Ministry of Education. Following the tournament there was a special presentation ceremony where several enthusiastic players received their awards. It was attended by several senior Government officials, including Kenson Casimir, Minister of Sports; representatives of Republic Bank and members of the SLNCA.



Members of the River Doree Anglican Combined School team with the winner's trophy

With a combined parish structure forming 5 zones, 19 school teams participated in zonal preliminary rounds leading to a grand “5 for Fun” festival finals. It is hoped that following this successful trial, this new fun and child friendly format will be introduced into other West Indies countries in the coming years.

KJ Singh, Senior Project Officer, Schools Cricket for CWI said: “‘5 for Fun’ is all about putting a bat and a ball into children’s hands for the first time and getting them to participate in a straightforward game of 5 players per side and 5 overs each. We will prioritize fun, teamwork, values, mental focus, tactical awareness, and physical development over technical expertise. Those young players who demonstrate a real passion and aptitude for the game will then have opportunities to within the wider Future Stars programme and the CWI development pathway.”

Karen Tom Yew, General Manager Group Marketing & Communications at Republic Bank commented: “Republic Bank is thrilled to see the launch of the ‘5 for Fun’ tournament. The underlying rationale behind this game really represents our commitment to building local communities and cements our support of diversity, equity, and inclusion in sport. We have been working with our friends at Cricket West Indies for some time on this ground-breaking partnership, and as creators of the format we are committed to its success. ‘5 for Fun’ is a paradigm for marketing investments that combine social good with potential growth in shareholder value.

It is expected that the pilot scheme will ultimately grow into a significant component of the Future Stars cricket development programme.

-ENDS-

Republic Bank & Cricket

5 For Fun is the third pillar of Republic Bank’s region-wide investment into the Caribbean’s favourite sport. Republic Bank is the Official Banking Partner of the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) and one of the tournament’s long-standing supporters. Alongside CPL, Republic Bank launched its Spirit of Caribbean Cricket

platform in 2019. Spirit of Caribbean Cricket is a digital media property whereby all the stakeholders of cricket ranging from fans to legends are invited to share their memories, anecdotes, and opinions about the past, present and future of the game. Visit www.spiritofcaribbeancricket.com for further details on this exciting and uniquely Caribbean take on cricket.



Friday, 22 October 2021

CWI announces sustainability partnership with Apex Group

ST JOHN'S, Antigua – Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced a new partnership with Apex Group Ltd., a global financial services provider. The partnership will see Apex as the exclusive shirt sponsor for the West Indies Men's team during the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup, as part of a broader Official Sustainability Partnership with CWI. It is believed to be the first sustainability partnership of its kind in international cricket.

The Apex logo will appear on the leading arm of the defending T20 World Champions' shirts for the duration of the West Indies ICC 2021 World Cup campaign. Apex will also provide sustainability and environmental advisory services to CWI for over a three-year period as its Exclusive Sustainability Partner. By providing CWI with annual carbon footprint assessments, Apex will help the organization lead the way in driving sustainability in cricket across the region by putting in place an action plan to reduce and offset climate altering outputs.

Ricky Skerritt, President of CWI said: "Sustainability is a powerful concept that is being woven into our organizational fabric on all fronts. We are therefore proud to announce this innovative commercial partnership with Apex Group, welcoming a new international partner to support West Indies cricket. For the many West Indian countries that we represent,

climate change is a real and present danger. As the first international cricket organization to systematically commit to evaluating and reducing our carbon output, Apex will help CWI devise an action plan to become fully sustainable on and off the pitch. For CWI, this will directly impact cricket because of how facilities and operations will need to change and adapt. We will also need plans to understand and offset the international and regional air travel that our teams have to undertake. In partnership with Apex, we intend to use our combined global platforms to act and drive change for future generations to come, of cricketers and fans.”

Peter Hughes, Founder and CEO of Apex Group said: “Amid the climate crisis, sport, like all industries, must recognize and act to reduce its impact on the environment. We are excited to announce our partnership with the West Indies T20 World Cup team and CWI to provide our market leading carbon footprint consultancy services, to help cricket do its part to combat the growing, global climate crisis. The West Indies represents some of the world’s most beautiful natural environment that we are looking to protect, so for us it makes perfect sense to partner with Cricket West Indies to kick-start our campaign to drive sustainability in sport. We wish the team every success as they defend their title as the current holders of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.”

West Indies are two-time and defending ICC T20 World Cup Champions and will be going in search of an unprecedented third title and back-to-back T20 World Cup Tournament wins. West Indies first match is on Saturday October 23 against England at the Dubai International Stadium in the first of West Indies’ Group games in the Super12 stage of the tournament. First ball is 6pm (10am Eastern Caribbean/9am Jamaica) and will be shown live on ESPN Caribbean.

-ENDS-

About Apex Group Ltd

[Apex Group Ltd.](#), established in Bermuda in 2003, is a global financial services provider. With 50 offices worldwide and 5,000 employees upon the close of announced acquisitions, Apex delivers an extensive range of services to asset managers, capital markets, private clients and family offices. The Group has continually improved and evolved its capabilities to offer a single-source solution through establishing the broadest range of services in the industry; including fund services, [digital onboarding and bank accounts](#), depository, custody and super ManCo services, [business services](#) including [HR and Payroll](#) and a pioneering [ESG Ratings and Advisory service](#) for private companies.